



Governor Visit Record

Date	2/5/23	Governors	Maureen Spence/Colin Green
Objectives for			
Enabling Environments			
Links with School Development Plan 2020-21			
5 year Plan - Estates Management Year 1 goals.			
Whole School Development			
Use of pupil views to inform future practice and policy as well as informing practice and environmental change as part of a culture shift. [PD6]			
Strong external links enhance the learning at Cleaswell providing a sense of belonging and contributing to meaningful lives embedded within the wider community. [PD7]			
Outreach and training in place for local schools to support the delivery of outstanding practice within their own settings. [PD8]			
Meeting and exceeding the desired learning outcomes that school and families hope to achieve for pupils (QoE1)			
All pupils have their behavioural needs met consistently, enabling inclusion and access to learning, thus maintaining outstanding progress towards EHCP targets (particularly emotional & social) (B&A 5)			
Greater influence on providing quality provision for SEND pupils. (L&M 3)			
Background preparation			
Prior knowledge based on project management and impact relating to 5 year plan.			
Scope of visit / Breadth of visit Scrutiny			
Maureen Spence and Colin Green to meet with Emma Dunn, Juliet Ruddick and Jordan Tolley			

Estates Management

Jordan explained that his area of responsibility includes buildings and premises. He operates an online helpdesk system where repairs needed can be requested and also where staff can input ideas for premises improvements. He updates a tracker document of all buildings and grounds which has a traffic light system to prioritise work required. Jordan is currently looking at the junior play yard, both equipment and surface. Colin commented on how expensive repairs to softpore are and suggested looking at a school in Bedlington which has an alternative surface.

Emma stated that students have now been identified who will be moving to the Appleby Centre once renovations are completed in September. Staff who will work out of the centre have now also been identified and building work has now commenced. Juliet explained that although there is ample space for wheelchair user access and movement in the centre, there is limited space available for storage of the wheelchairs. A discussion followed regarding wheelchair use in the centre, the logistics involved with lesson planning and movement to and from the main school to the centre and the possibility of an extension to the building in the future.

Jordan said that it was hoped to take delivery of the 2 therapy cabins that were previously delayed in the near future. The other cabin that was recently installed has been in use now for about a month and Juliet stated that this cabin is now in constant daily use. Emma explained that a handful of students were identified that require a bespoke therapeutic programme. These are high needs students from the engagement pathway and these are engagement plus students.

5 Year Plan

Juliet said that we now have an excellent sensory room that is working well and training has been provided for staff.

The kitchen refurbishment which was greatly needed was completed last summer.

Therapy spaces still ongoing as discussed above.

Community Access – The Hydro pool is in regular use from Water Babies, other special schools and others from as far away as Gateshead. Jordan is looking at purchasing lighting for the Muga which would allow the Muga to be rented out during evenings and weekends. Lauren Caisley is looking at funding for this. Fencing is to be changed to improve security on site. Jordan is looking at online booking systems for community facilities.

Business Links are continuing to grow via the Cleaswell Foundation and work related learning links are doing well.

Next Steps

Emma explained that plans were to look at other satellite facilities with the objective to be the lead SEND school in the county leading with a therapeutic approach to SEND. This needs to be a multi-disciplinary factor.

A discussion then followed regarding the electricity supply into the school and the use of solar panels. The Adult Services centre which is located next to the school was discussed and how this would make an ideal addition to the school premises. Emma went on to say

that school would eventually love to open their own student café but the Appleby Centre was not suitable for this so an alternative would need to be sourced. She explained that Design Tech is an area to be developed where products made could be used for enterprise. Performing Arts is doing well and the plan is to carry on developing this area.

Emma explained that getting the right student admissions to the school is vital in ensuring we can meet the student's needs. We need more capacity to support the students as the class sizes are getting too large, especially in Year 7 where there is always a big influx. She explained that there was a team that met to discuss all admissions to the school. She said that there was a lot more discussion with NCC, more working together, to ensure the needs of the students is met. We currently have 211 on roll with 231 in September.

Jordan explained that to upgrade the electricity supply into school it would cost in the region of £50k as the supply would need to be taken back from the bottom of School Avenue. He explained that the supply going into the Appleby Centre was the same capacity as that of the main school.

Accessibility Plan

All targets in the accessibility plan come under the 5 year plan.

Many thanks to Emma, Juliet and Jordan for giving us their time.

Date reviewed at FGB

27th July 2023